

## **PUBLIC SALES PURSUANT TO 29-15-10; LIENS**

***Please be advised that individuals cannot report a vehicle as abandoned to DMV;  
they will be advised to contact local law enforcement!***

***Only law enforcement, towing companies, storage facilities, garages or repair shops  
may arrange for removal/disposal or public sales of vehicles.***

1. Fill out the attached "Request for Vehicle Information" form (5027-A) (or available from the SC Department of Motor Vehicles) and mail to them. There is a \$6 fee.
2. The Department of Motor Vehicles will send you a copy of the title.
3. Mail a certified letter to the registered owner and any and all lien holders. Tell them the make, model, serial number and amount owed on the vehicle and that they have thirty (30) days from the date of the letter to claim it.
4. If identity of last registered owner cannot be determined, or if the registration contains no address for the owner, then you must provide notice by a 3 week publication in one newspaper of general circulation in the area where the vehicle was abandoned.
5. After 30 days, bring to the Magistrate's office:
  - The Request for Vehicle Information form and copy of title from Department of Motor Vehicles
  - Certified letters (returned letters must remain unopened)
  - Publication verification (if required)
  - Copies of repairs/storage
  - The complete attached Affidavit and \$35.00 filing fee.
6. A hearing date will be set by the court and notices of Public Sale will be posted.
7. If the judge rules that all paperwork is in order, a Public Sale will be held at the scheduled hearing.
8. After the sale, whoever purchases the vehicle will need to pay the amount (in cash) to our office so that a Bill of Sale may be issued. If no one is there to bid, the Bill of Sale will be issued to you.

### **KEEP A COPY OF EVERYTHING; THE COURT KEEPS ALL ORIGINALS**

**\*\* A towing company who has towed a vehicle for law enforcement shall provide the proper information that has been given by the law enforcement agency instead of the Highway Department, and sale may take place after 30 days from notification. [56-5-5635].**